

was, therefore, impossible for Mr. Hopkinson to get \$3,000 from me, and there was no one else to give him any money.

THE BRIBE CHARGE AS PUBLISHED.

The following is the bribe charge as it appeared in the Vancouver Province of Nov. 23:—

*Bribes were offered to Hindus to go to Honduras.—This is charged at Mass Meeting of the Natives Yesterday.—Refuse Now to Move.
Resolution to this Effect are sent to Ottawa, London and Calcutta.*

Three thousand dollars in greenbacks is the amount alleged to have been offered the Hindu delegates for making a favourable report on the proposition to transport their countrymen to British Honduras.

Prof. Tejah Singh, M. A., the leader of the local colony, broke silence this morning. He stated that he believed the story of the delegates to be absolutely true.

He alleges that Mr. Hopkinson, the official interpreter, offered the bribe.

"The Hindus who accompanied the Government Commissioner and interpreter to British Honduras tell a story that bears all the marks of absolute truth," said Teja Singh to-day. "They kept diaries during their travels, and have not omitted an incident that occurred.

"They have informed me that the bribe was offered them by Mr. Hopkinson at a town named Tancret, or at least their pronunciation makes it sound like that. The money filled a small bag. They were told that they could keep it if they made a favourable report. They took the sack, and later found that it contained \$3,000 in bills, mostly of large denominations. The delegates, of course, never intended to betray their countrymen in British Columbia. As soon as they found out the amount of the bribe, they returned the money.

"On their trip, the interpreter assured them that money was no object, and that their every wish would be gratified. They travelled in regal style all the way to Honduras and back. The delegates also exposed another matter to the committee here. They state that they were invited to attend a meeting of planters at Belize, capital of the colony. Through the interpreter they were informed that the country was an ideal place for Hindus, as fresh milk and butter could be secured in abundance at a low cost. They were requested to leave the room. The delegates felt very indignant over this, and took occasion to express themselves very plainly to Mr. Hopkinson a few hours later.